

Issue: On April 10, 2019, Vietnam's Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD) announced that it had removed glyphosate from the list of approved herbicides. The decision to halt imports will go into effect in 60 days and the ban on domestic use will go into effect in one year. MARD has referenced the two California federal court cases against glyphosate to bolster public and political support for its ban on the herbicide. *Vietnam's Prime Minister and Ministry of Foreign Affairs have also cited the court cases to link the glyphosate issue to legacy Agent Orange issues in Vietnam. The ban comes as a surprise after Vietnam cancelled plans to announce the ban the week of April 1 following requests from the United States, Germany, Canada and Australia for Vietnam to follow a science-based approach in line with international commitments.*

Responsible Agency: the Department of Plant Protection (PPD), Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development

PPD Basis for decision making (according to PPD's press release on April 10, 2019; PPD's report to the Government of Vietnam on May 9, 2019 and PPD's draft proposal on glyphosate ban 2018):

- **Toxicity of glyphosate:** The toxic level of herbicides containing glyphosate has been warned a long time ago. The abuse of herbicides, insecticides for a long time does not only affect the environment, but also leave the serious consequences firstly to the health of people - people who are often in contact with all kinds of this chemical and consumers.
 - An EPA's report in 1985 was cited that glyphosate may relate to cancer and kidney damages.
 - IARC Report: In 2015, International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) under the World Health Organization (WHO) published the results of the classified in group 2A carcinogens for pesticides (Plant Protection) containing glyphosate at high risk of causing blood, lung and prostate cancer.
 - EPA Reregistration Eligibility Decision Facts 1993 on glyphosate was listed as a reference.
- **Recommendations of the Pesticide Advisory Committee:** According to the Law on Plant Protection and Quarantine, PPD has organized the Pesticide Advisory Committee to review reports related to the removal of Glyphosate out of the approved List. On the legal basis, scientific and practical basis, Committee members have agreed to remove pesticides containing Glyphosate from the List of pesticides permitted for use in Vietnam.
- **Glyphosate related lawsuits in the U.S.:**
 - On August 10, 2018, a Jury in California also ruled Roundup herbicide of Monsanto [Company] causes cancer at the last stage for US citizens Dewayne Johnson and asked Monsanto for compensation for the plaintiff.
 - On March 19, 2019, a Jury of six persons at the Federal Court in San Francisco City, California State concluded that the Roundup herbicide of Monsanto Company, is a key factor that causes cancer for a man named Edwin Hardeman, 70 years old living in California, who regularly used herbicide from in 1980-2012. He was diagnosed with non-Hodgkin lymphoma [cancer] (NHL) after using this chemical.
 - As of February 2019, there were more than 11,200 lawsuits against Monsanto [Company] because of Roundup herbicide.

- Currently, the third lawsuit is taking place, namely, the couple Mr. and Mrs. Alva and Albera Pilliod, both are suffering from Non Hodgkin lymphoma [cancer] due to many years of using Roundup.
- **Glyphosate restriction in countries and states:** Over 40 countries and states in the world have strong actions in issuing legal regulations to regulate the management of Glyphosate use: from no renewal, restriction of use, to ban use of non-agricultural purposes or in specific area to completely ban glyphosate.

According to an industry source, PPD uses a list on the website of a law firm representing plaintiffs in the glyphosate lawsuits for reference.

[HYPERLINK "<https://www.baumhedlundlaw.com/toxic-tort-law/monsanto-roundup-lawsuit/where-is-glyphosate-banned/>"]

- **Substitutes for glyphosates:** Currently, in the List of pesticides permitted for use in Vietnam, there are 54 active ingredients of effective and safe herbicides replaceable for Glyphosate.

***Note:** A list of reference cited from PPD's draft proposal on glyphosate ban was attached.*